Classical China Terms – Feel free to add images

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Shi Huangdi | First leader of the Qin dynasty 240s BCE- 210 BCE; brutal leader; began construction of the **Great Wall**; successful silk farmer- paved the way for the Han dynasty to expand the **Silk Road**; he ordered a national census in order to tax the people- this developed a system of weights and balances; |
| Qin | Followed the Zhou dynasty 221 BCE- 202; 2rd dynasty; stressed central authority; sought to expand borders of China; some followed **legalism** |
| Han | Dynasty 202BCE- 200 CE. Followed the Qin; kept many ideals and goals of the Qin; wanted to expand the borders; continued to tax the people; expanded the **Silk Road**; but the Han was focused more on a bureaucratic government; and **Daoism** was more practiced |
| Zhou | Chinese dynasty 1029 BCE- 258BCE; prior to the **Era of Warring States**; did not establish a powerful government; regional government and families dominated; developed the land known as the **Middle Kingdom**; |
| Great Wall | Started by **Shi Huangdi**; one of the largest constructions in human history; built by forced labor; meant to kept attackers out Chinese territory |
| Daoism | Based on the balance of the yin and the yang; everything exists because of its opposite; the Dao is everything; gov’t exist because of the bad people; |
| Confucianism | Confucius – scholar of late Zhou era; over time his philosophy was the foundation for a whole civilization; Confucianism established norms for all aspects of life; stresses respect for elders- male authority in households; the beliefs were very laid back and focused on a spiritual side of a person; didn’t strongly believe in a powerful leader or government |
| Legalism | Rejected Confucianist thoughts by respecting a powerful leader; human nature was evil and needed to be put in line; never got accepted like Confucianism; |
| Bureaucracy | Division of the government; many bureaucrats appointed in Han dynasty; form of less centralized gov’t; |